MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*) : They hope so.

Appointment of Boiler Inspectors.

311. **MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI** (*Chirayinkil*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether the present (3-12-1104) Boiler Inspectors in the State have any special qualifications for holding the posts, and, if so, what they are ;

(*b*) whether there are any persons in the State service who are specially qualified for holding the Boiler Inspector's place ; and

(*c*) if the answer to part (*b*) is in the affirmative, why they were not preferred to the present incumbents ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : (*a*) Yes. The Chief Boiler Inspector is a B.E. of the Madras University in Mechanical Engineering. The Boiler Inspector also possesses the same qualification.

(*b*) The Government are not aware.

(*c*) In view of the answer to part (*b*), the question does not arise.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*) : Am I to understand that there is no person employed in the State service who is specially qualified in the boiler branch ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Governmeut*) ; That is so.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*) : Is there no body ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : Nobody, except the men who are there now.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*) ; My question is whether there is anybody else except the men who are now employed in the Boiler branch ; for example, there is a man who has passed the Boiler test examination?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : There is a man who possesses a competency certificate which is no qualification equal to the qualification possessed by the men already doing that work.

MR. K. P. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil*) ; Am I to understand that the man who has a competency certificate in Boiler matters is inferior to the one who has passed the Mechanical Engineering Examination ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Governmen* ; Yes ; he is.

The Soldiers' Committee.

312. **MR. A. THANU PILLAI** (*Trivandrum*) : (1) Are the Government aware that Soldiers' Boards organised by the British Indian Government in the various provinces of British India after the late war to help ex-war-service men in the matter of getting *puduval* lands, employment, etc., are still in existence, continuing their activities ?

(2) Will they be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether the Soldiers' Committee constituted to deal with the claims and needs of ex-war-service men of this State is now (4-12-1104) in existence ;

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